

HOUSE BILL 508
By Pinion

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 8,
Part 1, relative to traffic signal preemption devices.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 8, Part 1, is amended by
adding a new section thereto, as follows:

Section 55-8-194.

(a) For the purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires,
“portable signal preemption device” means a device capable of changing out of
sequence a traffic control signal to green.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (g), no person shall:

(1) Possess or use a portable signal preemption device; or

(2) Sell a portable signal preemption device to any person other than
those persons prescribed in subsection (g).

(c) A violation of subsection (b) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(d) A violation of subsection (b) that is the proximate cause of a traffic
accident involving property damage of more than five hundred dollars (\$500) is a Class
E felony.

(e) A violation of subsection (b) that is the proximate cause of a traffic
accident involving personal injury that results in the serious impairment of a body
function is a Class D felony.

(f) A violation of subsection (b) that is the proximate cause of a traffic
accident resulting in death is a Class C felony.

(g) This section shall not apply to:

(1) A law enforcement officer in the course of providing law
enforcement duties;

(2) A firefighter in the course of providing fire prevention or fire suppression services; or

(3) An emergency service technician or emergency service technician paramedic in the course of emergency service duties.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005, the public welfare requiring it.